Inetrmediates) Scheme has been notified 00 1-3-1995. Under this Scheme, the engineering goods exporter can domestically source their requirements of iron and ste elintermedjates at prices competi-able to internaional prices from stee.1 producers, who are entitled to duty free import of their inputs under the Scheme.

(c) Government has, from. time to time, reviewed the working of IPRS and rectified the flaws noticed as a result of such reviews. The Scheme has been withdrawn 'with effect from 1-4-94.

■ .(d) The main objective of IPRS was to reimburse tha price differential between the domestic prices and interoaional prices of iron and steel raw materials required for export production by the , engineering exporters/manufacturers.

Disposal of rice mills in Tamil Nadu by FCI .

5120. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India has decided to dispose of the modern rice mills and a solvent extraction plant in .Tamil Nadu to private parties;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the former Chairman of FCI had directed the Zonal Managers to make a study to revive these units and the committee recommended to reactivate
. these units; and

(d) if so, what are the action taken on those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Food Corporation of India has decided to dispose of all the remaining 12 Modern Rice Mills including the 4 in Tamil Nadu and a Solvent Extrac-• tion; Plant at Sembanarkoil in Tamil Nadu. In the first instance,- the Corporation has offered the plants and mchinery of these units to the respective State Governments and their agencies. Their response is still awaited. Any other mode of disposal will be .considered only after the response of the State Governments and their agencies is known.

(c) and (d) The former Chairman of FCI had suggested revival of 8 Modern Rice Mills in the South Zone. Two Committees, constituted to workout the modalities of reviv-ing these units had estimated that fresh investments of Rs. 13.60 lakhs Would be required for the purpose. The- findings of a subsequent techno-.. economic study undertaken by "the Corporation to ascertain the viability of running these units, on commercial lines, were not encouraging. Taking all relevant factors into account the Board of Directors of FCI ultimately decided to dispose of these loss making units.

Reducing prices of wheat and rice sold by FCI

5121. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reduce the prices of wheat and rice sold by FCI in open market;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) how much quantity of foodgrains . has since been sold and at what rate?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The prices of wheat and rice for sale' in open market are feed by a High Level Committee of Food Corporation of India. constituted for the purpose, state-wise' and on month to month